Happy 6th
Anniversary,
Bliss!

Ransetsuki

Bliss

Volume 4 Chapter 23

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第二十三幕

"It sure is inconvenient being a human."
"Just a little bleeding and you die."
"Oh?"
"You always smile like that, so blandly,"
"as though you would still be smiling even when you die."
"Do you not fear death?"
"I am a bushi*,"
"If I were afraid of death, I would not be able to continue living."

*Bushi - warrior

"Whether you are still smiling as you die."
"What?"
"Then, how about letting me make certain?"
"Is that so?"
"..."
"So, from now on, this life of mine..."
"Be grateful!"
"Is all yours."

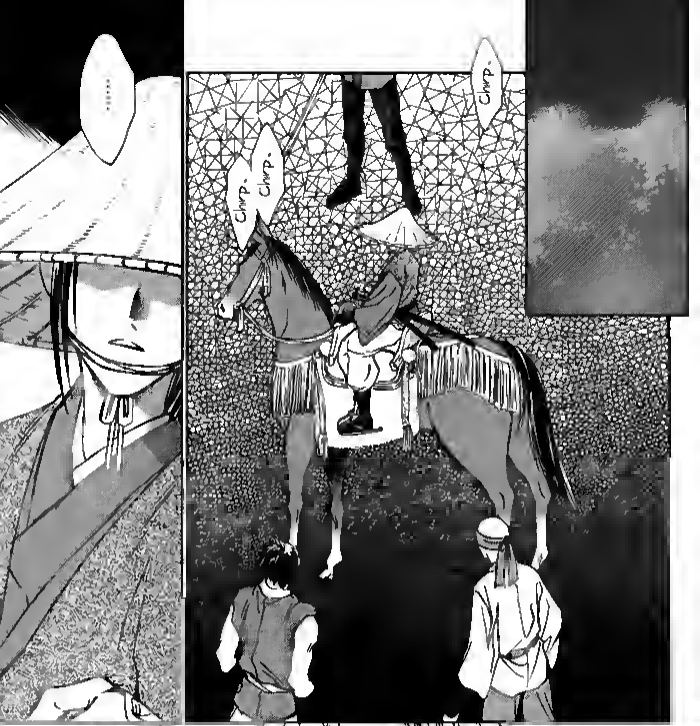
I can't do a thing with them...
HONESTLY WHAT A BUNCH OF COWARDLY LITTLE

HEY! THE SAKE'S OUT! BRING THE SAKE!
BOSS!
O
HUH?
BOSS PLEASE COME OVER HERE!
HUH?
WHAT'S WITH THE RUCKUS?
THERE'S A BUSH!

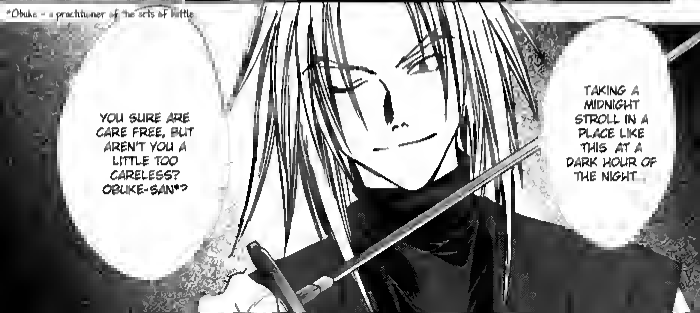
WHAT'S WITH HIM? COMING TO A PLACE LIKE THIS...
AND ALL ALONE TOO
MAYBE BECAUSE OF THE BATTLE FURTHER DOWN
COULD HE BE A STRAGGLER?
REGARDLESS EVEN THE WAY HE'S DRESSED IS WEIRD

GO GET TWO OR THREE MORE GUYS OVER HERE.
UNDER-STOOD.
WHETHER HE'S A FAT SHEEP OR NOT,
LET'S GRAB HIM.
...OH WELL,
...THE BLADES AREN'T BAD.

WHOA,
TSU-
YUKI
CHIRP-
CHIRP-
CHIRP-
!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE



*Obuke = a practitioner of the arts of battle

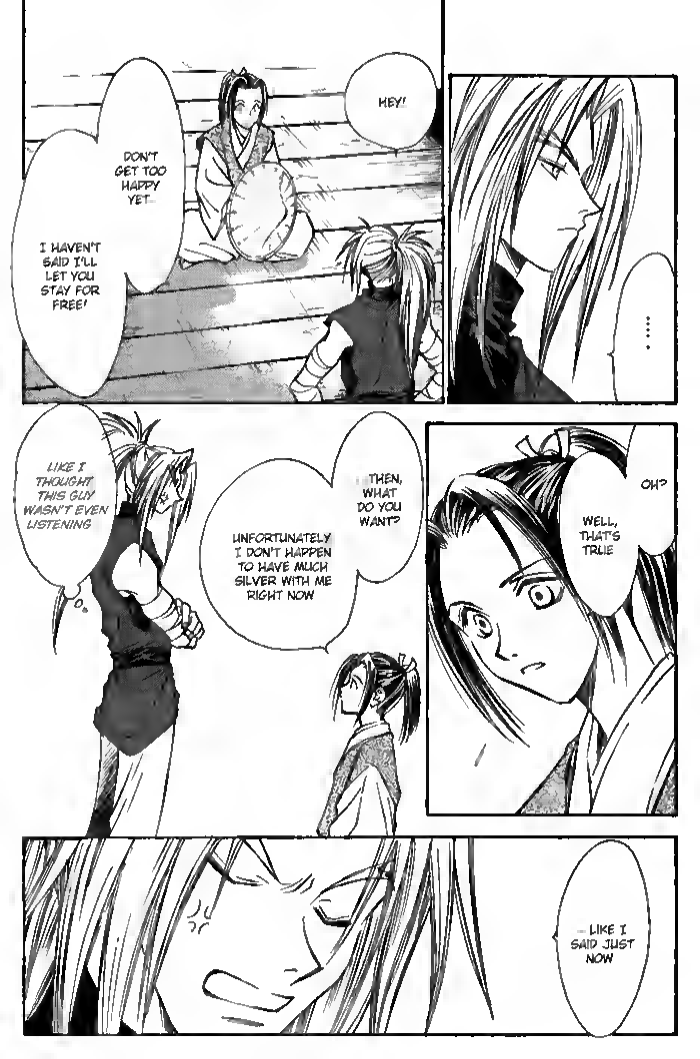

YOU SURE ARE CARE FREE, BUT AREN'T YOU A LITTLE TOO CARELESS? OBUKE-SAN*?
TAKING A MIDNIGHT STROLL IN A PLACE LIKE THIS AT A DARK HOUR OF THE NIGHT

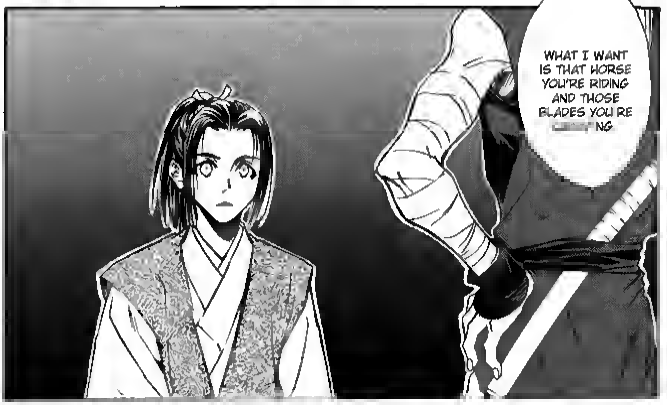
AS LONG AS YOU JUST HAND OVER WHAT WE WANT,
WE WON'T CUT YOU DOWN FROM BEHIND WITHOUT ANY WARNING
TAP
TAP
ALRIGHT, IF YOU STILL WANT TO LIVE THEN LEAVE YOUR HORSE AND WHAT YOU'VE GOT AT YOUR WAIST
RIGHT HERE
WELL?
WHAT'S YOUR DECISION?
.....
.....?
!
SO YOU'RE HUMANS

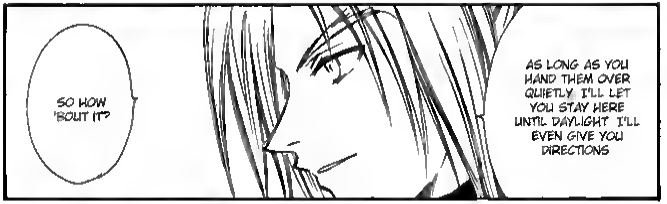
HUH?
BECAUSE YOU ALL SUDDENLY RUSHED OUT FROM THE DARKNESS, I THOUGHT YOU WERE SPIRITS
ストン
BUT SINCE YOU'RE HUMAN THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY PRO-BLEMS
I'VE LOST MY WAY AND I WAS JUST STARTING TO GET WORRIED
SORRY BUT CAN YOU ALL TELL ME HOW TO GET TO THE ROAD INTO TOWN?
DID YOU HEAR ANYTHING I JUST SAID?
...AH! BUT WITH IT BEING SO DARK, EVEN IF I GOT DIRECTIONS I STILL WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HEAD OUT...
HM...
HE'S NOT LISTENING AT ALL.

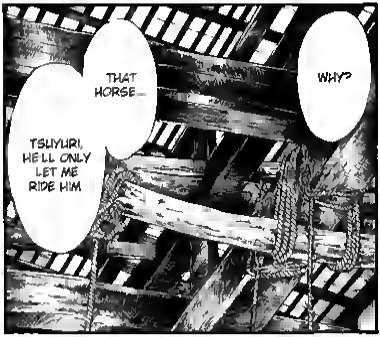
SURE.
Boss!
EXCUSE ME COULD I ALSO ASK YOU ALL TO TAKE ME IN FOR THE NIGHT?
OH YEAH!
.....
WHEW!
THAT'S GOOD, THAT'S GOOD, SAVED AT LAST

THANK YOU ALL!
THE GODS MUST FAVOR ME
HE'S JUST A KID...
WHAT THE HECK...


HEY!
DON'T GET TOO HAPPY YET...
I HAVEN'T SAID I'LL LET YOU STAY FOR FREE!
.....
OH?
WELL, THAT'S TRUE
...THEN, WHAT DO YOU WANT?
UNFORTUNATELY I DON'T HAPPEN TO HAVE MUCH SILVER WITH ME RIGHT NOW
LIKE I THOUGHT, THIS GUY WASN'T EVEN LISTENING
...LIKE I SAID JUST NOW


WHAT I WANT IS THAT HORSE YOU'RE RIDING AND THOSE BLADES YOU RE [illegible] NG


SO HOW 'BOUT IT?
AS LONG AS YOU HAND THEM OVER QUIETLY, I'LL LET YOU STAY HERE UNTIL DAYLIGHT. I'LL EVEN GIVE YOU DIRECTIONS


WHY?
THAT HORSE...
TSUYURI, HE'LL ONLY LET ME RIDE HIM

MY HORSE AND BLADES ?
UM... THAT MIGHT BE A BIT DIFFICULT.

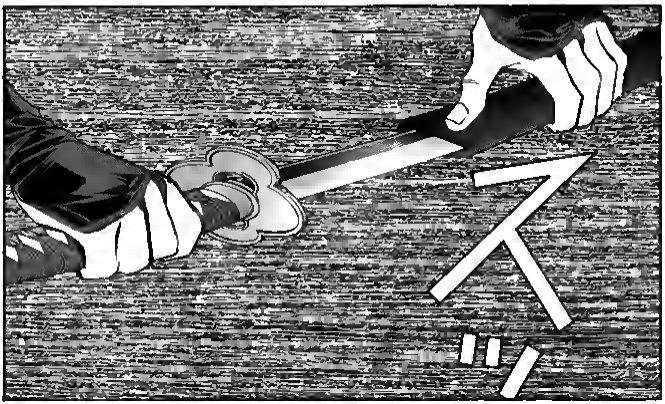
AND EVEN IF YOU MANAGED TO GET ON HIS BACK, HE'D STILL THROW YOU OFF
IN ORDER TO TAME HIM, YOU'D HAVE TO SPEND A LOT OF TIME AND EFFORT
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU WOULD BE GETTING ANYTHING OUT OF A DEAL LIKE THAT
...AND THIS BLADE...
カチャ!
...HERE!
.....
so straight
forward...

TRY TO UNSHEATHE IT.
……!?
?
?

BOSS— WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
SHUT UP!
Heh heh
Hahaha.
WELL? CAN'T DO IT, RIGHT?

— THIS BLADE IS CALLED HAGASUMI —

WHAT THE HELL IS WITH THIS THING?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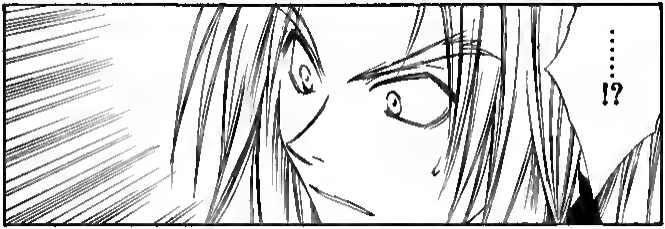
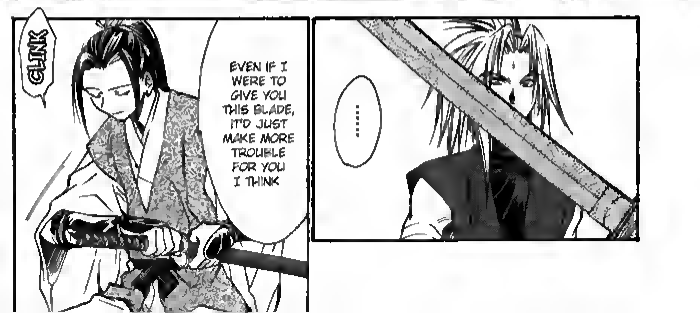

……!?

IF IT IS NOT SOMEONE IT FINDS ACCEPTABLE, THE BLADE CANNOT BE REMOVED FROM THE SHEATH.
EVEN IF YOU WERE ABLE TO UNSHEATHE IT
IN THAT INSTANT IT WOULD BECOME A REGULAR PIECE OF JUNK METAL
... IT IS A BLADE THAT CHOOSES ITS OWN MASTER

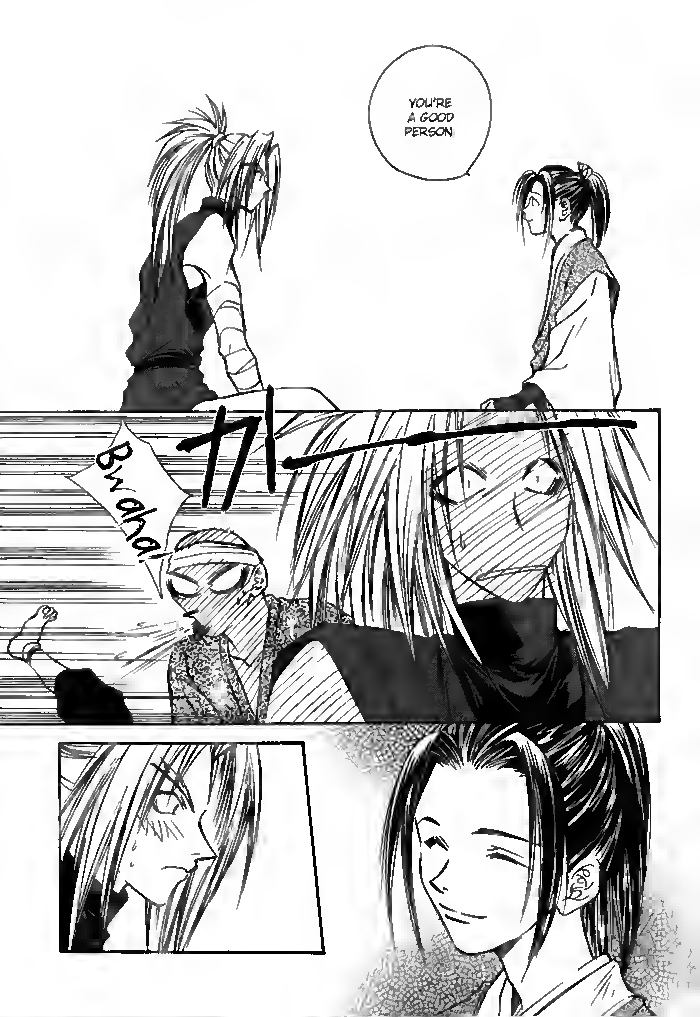

CLINK
EVEN IF I WERE TO GIVE YOU THIS BLADE, IT'D JUST MAKE MORE TROUBLE FOR YOU I THINK
.....

HASN'T IT OCCURRED TO HIM THAT HE COULD GET KILLED?
BUT THEN I REALLY WOULDN'T BE DOING YOU GUYS RIGHT IF I DON'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING AT ALL---
OH YEAH!
HOW ABOUT THIS?

*Yatate is the simplified name for an inkstone, a portable writing device.
YES
PRETTY FINELY CRAFTED
A YATATE*, HUH?
THE ONLY THING I HAVE THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED OF VALUE WOULD BE THIS
IF YOU DON'T THINK IT TOO MEAGER AN OFFERING, THEN PLEASE TAKE IT
ALRIGHT
I'LL TAKE THIS THING.
I KINDA LIKE IT ANYWAY
REALLY ?

MY UTMOST GRATITUDE.
HEY!
WHAT?
A BUSHI SHOULDN'T BOW HIS HEAD SO EASILY.
ESPECIALLY TO PEOPLE LIKE US
WHY?
.....
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHY?

...
YOU REALLY ARE AN IDIOT!
TO BURY YOUR GRATITUDE IN YOUR HEART JUST BECAUSE OF THE PERSON YOU FEEL IT FOR, THAT'S SOMETHING A PERSON SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF.
IF YOU FEEL GRATEFUL THEN YOU SHOULD SAY SO.
WHAT GUARANTEE DO YOU HAVE THAT WE WON'T LIE TO YOU?
WE CAN GET THE HORSE AND THE BLADE JUST BY KILLING YOU.
AND EVEN IF THEY'RE OF NO USE TO US WE CAN STILL SELL THEM.
.....
BUT YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO, HAVE YOU?
I DON'T SENSE ANY EVIL.
AND YOU HAVEN'T LIED TO ME.

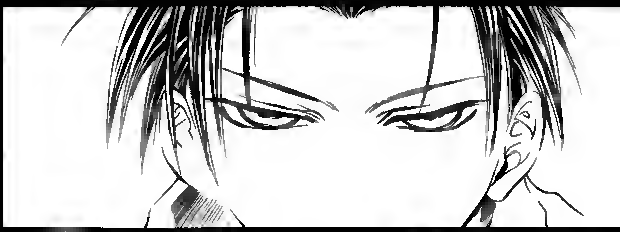

YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON
Bwaha!

...LOOK HERE.
JUST GO FROM HERE STRAIGHT DOWN.
AND YOU'LL GET TO TOWN.
...The first time we met,
I sensed he was an incredible, young bushi...

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP
STOP THANKING ME JUST HURRY UP AND GO!
IF I HANG AROUND WITH YOU ANY MORE I'M GOING TO GO INSANE
SORRY
...HEY!

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
ASAKI
HYUUGA ASAKI
AND YOU?
KAISHI
GOOD BYE.
KAISHI!

Now that I think about it,
you were the first
Those eyes of yours, so full of something,
that steady, comforting voice...
Why did I forget...?
"Goodbye..."
Why did I forget...?
Asaki



"So, from now on,
this life of mine . "

"Is all yours."

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